

II. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following new paragraph after the title on page 1 of the English Translation:

-- CROSS REFERENCE

This application is a United States national phase application of co-pending international patent application number PCT/JP2004/009053, filed November 8, 2004, which claims priority to Japanese patent application number 2003-379119, filed November 7, 2003 which priority is claimed. -

Please delete the entire first full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 11, lines 5 and 6

~~A seventh aspect of the invention is a reagent container in which the plurality of liquid-containing units are arranged in a straight line in cartridge or microplate form.~~

Please replace the first full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 23, lines 7 – 15, with the following amended paragraph:

-- Furthermore, a heating agent is contained inside the thermostat container 5 but outside the external wall that constitutes the outside surface of the well 4. The heating agent 8 may be for example, a mixture of iron powder, activated carbon, salt, and a water-retaining substance retaining water. The amount of each substance is determined depending on the desired temperature, the reaction time, the capacity of the well 4 and the thermostat container, the material from which the well 4 is made, and the type of reagent, and the like. According to the present example, because the thermostat container 5 is positioned some distance apart from the group of wells 3, the heat of the thermostat container 5 has little effect on the wells 3, and reliable processing can be performed. --

Please replace the fourth paragraph of the English translation of the specification beginning on page 24, lines 17 – 24, continuing to page 25, line 1, with the following amended paragraph:

-- The thermostat container 16 is formed so as to surround the outside but not the opening of a well 15 which contains a reagent, and has an inside diameter and outside diameter smaller than the well 13. A heating agent 17 is accommodated outside the external wall that constitutes the outside surface of the well 13. An annular lid 19 is fitted to a mouth section 17a which has an annular opening at the top of the thermostat container 16, and a plurality of ventilation pores 18 through which air can enter the thermostat container 16 are provided in the lid 19. The thermostat container 16 is prevented from falling through the through hole 14 by forming the lid 19 so that the outside diameter thereof is larger than the inside diameter of the through hole 14. --

Please replace the third full paragraph of the English translation of the specification on page 25, lines 14-15, with the following amended paragraph:

-- As follows are examples of heating agents 8, 17 that can be used in example 1 and example 2 as described above. --